

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE REFORM SCHOOL,

AT WESTBOROUGH;

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1857.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

In obedience to the 40th chapter of the statute of the year 1857, the Trustees of the State Reform School at Westborough respectfully present to the Governor and Council the condition and operations of that institution, for ten months ending the 30th September, 1857.

By the blessing of our Heavenly Father, the Great Ruler of the Universe, the institution has continued to perform its mission of mercy and reformation to a large number of boys, whose greatest misfortune was the want of faithful and judicious parents. In many cases their crimes were the result of unfavorable circumstances, more than any innate depravity of heart. Hence the value of this institution in saving from crime and consequent misery, present and future, the young and the tender, and training them to habits of industry, morality and good citizenship.

In a pecuniary, as well as a moral and religious aspect, the *reformation* of the boy is of vast consequence to the State. It

is cheaper to educate and train in the Reform School, than it is to punish in the jails, the penitentiary, or on the gallows. But all considerations of profit vanish at once, when the great interests of the immortal being are brought to view, and when the consequences of youthful depravity on the one hand, or youthful virtue and intelligence on the other, are seen in the future man.

The largest number of boys in the school during the past year has been 614 ; a number greater than has ever been in the institution at any one time before, and more than can be suitably accommodated.

The whole number that have been received since the commencement of the institution is 2,138, and the number remaining on the 30th of September, was 613.

It is confidently believed that the history of the institution for nearly eleven years in which it has been in operation, will show in its results that much more than a majority of its inmates have been reformed, and are becoming good citizens ; while many others have been greatly improved, morally and intellectually, and perhaps saved from greater crimes ; while none, we feel sure, are made worse for a residence of from one to five years under the ameliorating influence and atmosphere of the institution. The reformation of the boy, therefore, however low and vicious he may have been, is no longer an experiment ; and the expense of this institution to the State may therefore be considered as a most judicious and valuable use of its means, and its powers to do good.

And as some of even our thoughtful and benevolent citizens may have had fears that this large annual expenditure is hardly justified, the Trustees would invite all such to visit the institution, and see how the appropriation is expended, and study for themselves the working of the system, and the results already realized.

It is a source of modest and grateful pride, that Massachusetts was a pioneer in establishing reform schools for boys, as well as industrial schools for girls.

The wisdom of our government in thus saving her children from crime, and leading them to a higher and better life, we rejoice to know has been followed by many others ; and the

great idea which has its foundation in the very essence of Christianity, that *reformation* as well as punishment is the duty of the State, is becoming a “fixed fact” in the policy of most of the sister States of our Union.

Impressed with these views, the Board of Trustees would refer with much satisfaction to the accompanying Reports of the Superintendent, Chaplain, Physician and Treasurer, for statistical tables, and other details, in their respective departments, which we believe will fully show that the institution has never been in a better working condition, and is carrying out the benevolent design of its founder, and of the government.

An important change in the government of the institution has occurred the past year. In December last, Mr. Jas. M. Talcott resigned the office of Superintendent, and Mr. W. E. Starr, of Worcester, was appointed in his place. As the office of Superintendent is the highest in the institution under the Trustees, the Board deemed it advisable to make the induction of the new Superintendent an occasion of an impressive public service. A very able, appropriate, and instructive address was delivered by the Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Board of Education, and remarks were made by the Hon. Simon Brown, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, by Lieut. Governor Benchley, by the venerable Robert Rantoul, Esq., of Beverly, Rev. Bradford K. Peirce, Superintendent of the Industrial School for Girls, and by other gentlemen. A large number of ladies and gentlemen, who take a deep interest in the progress of the school, were present, as were also all the officers of the institution, and all its inmates, who numbered on that day 576.

The exercises throughout commanded the most earnest attention from guests and boys, and all seemed happier and better for having assisted in the inauguration of the new Superintendent.

The Trustees are very glad to be able to say, that their confident expectations in regard to the valuable services of the new Superintendent, Mr. Starr, and of Mrs. Starr, acting as Matron, have been fully justified and confirmed.

The station of Superintendent is one of great care, labor,

and responsibility ; requiring an amount of wisdom, sagacity, and judgment superior to most places of instruction and government in the Commonwealth. We believe that the present incumbent exercises those qualities in a high degree.

The Chaplain's department, one of vast importance to the highest welfare of the boys, involving much of the spiritual as well as the temporal well-being of those under its charge, we are happy to know is in a very prosperous condition. All that well directed zeal, industry, and a love of the work can do, to lead the boys in the paths of wisdom, is done by the Rev. Mr. Sleeper, the Chaplain of the institution.

The other officers, the teachers and employees of the school, more than thirty in number, are faithfully performing their respective duties ; thus making the administration and instruction of the institution harmonious, effective and valuable.

The semi-monthly visitation, by one or more of the Board of Trustees, has been faithfully continued during the year. Reports in writing of such visitations are entered in a book kept for that purpose, and are read at each quarterly meeting of the Trustees. This arrangement, we believe, is a very beneficial one ; insuring, as it does, the deliberate opinion of each member of the Board of the defects and the improvements of the institution.

The schools, eight in number, are an important part of the disciplinary arrangement of the institution ; two sessions a day, of two hours each, are held by them, the remainder of the time being occupied in labor, sleep, refreshment and recreation. It has been the policy of the Board to employ the best teachers they could procure in the country ; hence good progress has usually been made by the pupils. A thorough semi-annual examination, in June and November, of all the schools, is made by the Committee of the Board, who have especial charge of that department, occupying two days at each time ; and full reports of such examination are made to the Board, and are entered on its records. There are scholars in some of those schools who would compare favorably with the pupils of the high schools of our larger towns. The education of the boys of the institution, therefore, is well attended to.

It is an interesting and quite suggestive fact, that one of the best teachers in these schools was a former inmate of the Reform School, and received there the greater part of his education.

The Library—an interesting and important part of the institution—is under the care of the Committee on Schools, and has received their frequent attention. Seventy-five dollars per annum, by an Act of the legislature, have been used for the purchase of suitable books, and the income of “The Mary Lamb Fund,” amounting to sixty dollars, has been appropriated by the Board for the same purpose. There are now in the library 1,168 volumes, and the books are much read by the boys, furnishing them a valuable source of amusement and instruction.

So numerous have been the commitments to the institution by police courts and magistrates, that we have found it necessary to notify them that no more could be received for a time. Those courts have sometimes sent to the school boys so young, that they were better fitted for the nursery than the more rigid discipline of a reform school. We hope this error will not be repeated.

The large number of boys committed during the past year on *short sentences*, or, terms less than during minority, renders it necessary for the Trustees again to remind magistrates of the tendency of such commitments to *almost* wholly frustrate the original design of the founders of this institution, the design of which was not for a preventive, but a reformatory school. And when boys are committed on short times, they are led to suppose that it is retributive for past offences, and they have just so long to remain, and then their crime is expiated, and thus there is but little inducement to reform; and when their sentence expires, they return to their old associates, and frequently to their former habits, and *almost* to certain ruin.

Whereas, when committed during their minority, they look upon the superintendent as their foster-father, and the institution as a certain home, and that nothing but their good behavior can release them. And when their conduct is such as to render it safe,—if they have parents or friends who are suitable persons to care for them,—they can be discharged as reformed; or if

some doubt should remain as to permanent reformation, they are bound by the Trustees to their friends; and then, if again led away by temptation, and need farther restraint, they can be returned without the process of trial, or appearing before a magistrate, which acts as a continual inducement for them to do well, and permanent reformation is more easily effected.

And it is much more important that commitment be during minority, when they have not suitable homes to which they can return, as it then gives the Trustees an opportunity to provide places for them where they will be well cared for and suitably restrained.

It appears from Table 11th of the Superintendent's Report, that twenty-eight boys have been received at the Reform School, during the past year, who were over sixteen years of age. To prevent a repetition of this evil, whether arising from inadvertence of the magistrate or from misrepresentations made to him, we would suggest an amendment of the laws, requiring the committing magistrate to state in the mittimus the ages of all boys committed to the State Reform School.

As soon as the boys are sufficiently educated and reformed, they are apprenticed to farmers and mechanics in the country, where they will not be exposed to the temptations of city life, and will grow up with good habits. Some become mariners, and in that employment have an opportunity to become useful men.

The management of the farm being with the Board of Agriculture, a report of its condition must come from them rather than from us. We are glad to be able to state that a much larger number of the boys have been employed on the farm the last year than heretofore. For the physical, as well as moral improvement of the boys, we think that work in the open air—in the broad fields and under the cheering light of the sun, on the farm, is preferable to all other kinds of employment.

The garden, which is under our control, has been well cultivated and productive the past season. If the orchard on the north side of the garden could be placed under our care, in connection with the garden, it would, in our judgment, be a judicious arrangement.

The stable and carriage-house of the institution were built at

different times, and have always been inferior in their accommodations and appearance. They have now become much dilapidated and inconvenient for use. The Board are of the opinion that an appropriation should be made by the State, for a new brick stable and carriage-house, which would probably cost some \$2,000.

To meet the ordinary expenses of the current year, we think the sum of \$44,000 will be necessary, viz. :—

For provisions and clothing for 600 boys, at \$45,	\$27,000 00
For salaries, wages, and support of officers, .	12,000 00
For fuel, light, and current expenses, . .	8,000 00
For repairs and incidental expenses, . . .	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$50,000 00
Deduct estimated receipts for boys' labor, .	6,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$44,000 00

The Act of the legislature for the year 1856, chapter 150, providing for "the support of certain inmates of the State Reform School," has not been found to be of any practical value ; as from the advice of able legal counsel, we have learned that it could not be enforced. Further legislation is necessary if the objects of that Act are considered desirable.

In conclusion, while we feel that a great and responsible duty devolves upon us in the management of this institution, yet we rejoice that we may thus be instrumental in promoting the highest objects of philanthropy and a good government—the reformation and the education of ignorant and erring children.

And in this connection, we feel it a grateful duty often to recur to the far-sighted wisdom, sagacious judgment, and Christian benevolence of the founder of this noble institution. Let all honor and respect, then, be given to the name of THEODORE LYMAN, without whose efforts and whose donations and bequests of a fortune, it would never, in all human probability, have existed in its present form and usefulness. While this noble edifice, so beautifully situated, will be a lasting monument of

his Christian philanthropy, a more enduring memorial will exist through coming ages, in the thousands of youth who shall be taken from homes of crime and ignorance, and shall here learn the great practical truth that—

“Wisdom’s ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all her paths are peace.”

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY W. CUSHMAN.
JOHN A. FITCH.
PARLEY HAMMOND.
JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
SIMON BROWN.
THOS. A. GREENE.
JOSIAH H. TEMPLE.

WESTBOROUGH, Oct. 14, 1857.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Council of
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

The Treasurer of the State Reform School respectfully presents the Eleventh Annual Report.

The Treasurer charges himself, from December 1, 1856, to September 30, 1857, inclusive, as follows:—

For cash on hand, per last Report,	\$2,873 15
For amount received from the State Treasury,	38,500 00
For amount received from Mary Lamb Fund,	71 99
For amount of two notes received from Comstock, Cole & Co., not due at the date of last Report,	\$781 44
	715 60
For amount received from A. Davis & Co.,	279 31
	<hr/> 1,776 35
For amount received for labor of boys,	5,610 57
For sundries,	1,247 15
	<hr/> <hr/> \$50,079 21

There is now due the institution for the labor of boys, the following sums:—

From Comstock, Cole & Co., two notes, payable as follows:—

December 1-4,	\$632 80
February 1-4,	774 72
From A. Davis & Co.,	232 54
	<hr/> \$1,640 06

And he credits himself for the following payments:—

Clothing,	\$4,106 41	
Provisions and groceries,	19,720 87	
General improvements and repairs,	4,121 28	
Furniture and bedding,	2,652 14	
Fuel and lights,	4,725 68	
Salaries and wages,	9,300 33	
Leather, tools, and material for the shoe shop,	721 36	
School books and stationery,	867 36	
Library books, (\$71.99 of which has been paid from the Mary Lamb Fund, by order of the Trustees, and the balance, \$75.00, from the general appropriation,)	146 99	
Transportation,	711 97	
Postage,	27 32	
Hospital expenses,	64 94	
Trustees' expenses,	329 17	
Miscellaneous,	1,426 09	
	<hr/>	\$48,921 91
Cash on hand,		1,157 30
		<hr/>
		<u>\$50,079 21</u>

Tools and Materials for the Shoe Shop, include

Leather, 595 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet,	\$170 65
Leather, 1,721 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	528 66
Tools,	11 30
Pegs, tacks, wax, &c.,	10 75
	<hr/>
	\$721 36

Improvements and Repairs, include

Labor and materials on general repairs, . . .	\$1,137 59
Repairing steam boiler and other iron work, .	111 01
Lightning rods,	369 51
Grist mill, pulleys, and other fixtures, . .	382 43
Soap-stone, cloths, boiler,	41 90
Bath tub, lead pipe, pumps and repairing, .	560 50
Paints and painting,	434 20
Paper hangings,	79 01
Whitewashing and brushes,	300 00
Locks, keys, knobs, hinges, &c.,	28 30
Carpenters' and blacksmiths' tools,	12 00
Repairing slating,	172 85
Steam pipes and repairing,	168 24
Enlarging steam mill,	36 95
Labor and materials in repairing Peter's house,	161 00
Grading in front of institution, and cutting down road,	107 50
Glass,	18 29
	<hr/>
	\$4,121 28

Books, Stationery and Printing, include

School books,	\$580 18
Slates, 12 dozen,	10 08
Duntonian writing books, 95 dozen,	90 20
Paper, pens, ink, &c.,	44 04
Maps of Middlesex and Worcester Counties, .	10 00
Pelton's physical and political outline maps, 1 set,	20 00
Youth's Companion, 10 copies,	7 20
Daily Journal,	6 34
Evening Traveller,	5 00
Printing, \$73.24 ; Advertising, \$21.08, . .	94 32
	<hr/>
	\$867 36

Furniture and Bedding, include

Ticking, 868 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	\$105 40
Sheeting, 2,692 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	268 49
Table linen, \$16.26 ; napkin rings, 4 doz., \$6, .	22 26
Jean, 732 yards, \$62.22 ; crash, \$2.08, . . .	64 30
Diaper for spreads, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	16 75
Lancaster quilts, 18,	24 21
Blankets, 200,	517 00
Prints, 491 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	44 41
Straw for beds, 18,890 pounds,	90 23
Thread, 19 pounds,	17 75
Shears, 6 pairs, needles and thimbles, . . .	8 76
Carpeting, 310 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	188 86
Mats, 9 ; Baskets,	14 75
Hair for pillows, 219 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	54 79
Pillows and bolsters, 3 sets,	23 40
Mattresses, 4 hair and 4 husk,	80 50
Feather bed,	22 50
Bureaus, 2,	25 00
Bedsteads, 4, \$21.75 ; sinks, 3, \$18.50, . . .	40 25
Chairs, 10 ; rockers, 4 ; cricket, 1,	20 87
Centre tables, 4 ; table covers, 5,	52 71
Mirrors, 5, \$5.50 ; stool for seraphine, \$5, .	10 50
Towel racks and curtain fixtures,	7 03
Pails, 8 dozen,	37 99
Tubs, clothes-pins and other wooden ware, .	26 09
Knives and forks, \$80.81 ; spoons, \$35.74, .	116 55
Crockery,	181 80
Glass and earthen ware,	21 05
Tin and iron ware,	72 33
Lanterns, \$21.50 ; lamps, 12, 1 large solar, \$24.62,	46 12
Chimneys and shades,	19 25
Brooms, 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	64 80
Brushes, floor and scrubbing,	52 61
Stoves, funnel and repairing,	231 70
Coal-hods and shovels,	16 50
Refrigerator, 1,	12 00
Sundry small articles,	22 63

 \$26,652 14

Clothing, includes

Satinets, 4,096 $\frac{1}{4}$ yards,	\$2,372 39
Cloth and clothing for apprentices,	112 72
Suspenders, 13 $\frac{1}{6}$ dozen,	20 47
Cutting clothing,	4 00
Denims, 1,188 yards,	178 20
Cotton cloth, 2,743 yards,	291 92
Vesting, 150 $\frac{3}{4}$ yards,	42 17
Silesia, 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ yds., \$8.33; canvas, 103 yds., \$13.84,	22 17
Palm leaf hats, 13 dozen,	18 20
Caps, 49,	28 92
Visors, 21 gross, \$74.08; cloth for caps, 190 yards, \$26.78,	100 86
Cambric, 418 $\frac{1}{2}$ yards,	32 17
Thread, 104 pounds, \$68.93; silk, \$14.08,	83 01
Scissors, 4 pairs; needles and tapes,	7 65
Buttons, 118 $\frac{3}{4}$ gross; 102 gross S. R. S.,	110 77
Socks, 120 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	306 96
Boots, 27 pairs, \$73.50; shoes, 65 pairs, \$65.80,	139 30
Yarn, 142 pounds,	135 03
Handkerchiefs and cravats,	52 00
Combs, 34 gross,	32 24
Sundries,	15 26
	<hr/>
	\$4,106 41

Provisions and Groceries, include

Flour, 753 barrels,	\$5,975 22
Rye Meal, 201 bushels,	215 25
Indian Meal, 680 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels,	701 40
Buckwheat, 375 pounds,	11 58
Beef, 51,823 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	4,111 34
Tongue, 69 pounds,	8 62
Pork, 2,304 pounds,	275 32
Ham, 480 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	64 18
Mutton, 128 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds,	15 60
Veal, 1,546 pounds,	164 63
Tripe, 247 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	21 51
Fish, 6,903 pounds,	223 10
Oysters, 19 gallons,	32 22
Poultry, 391 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	61 28

Potatoes, 336 bushels,	\$265 91
Beans, 79 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels,	163 73
Peas, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	34 51
Rice, 38,963 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	1,769 13
Salt, \$40.77 ; ice, \$35.56,	76 33
Sugar, 3,977 pounds,	484 93
Coffee, 394 pounds, \$55.20 ; tea, 135 lbs., \$65.65,	120 85
Chocolate, 2,101 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	432 75
Molasses, 3,628 gallons,	1,649 86
Butter, 3,228 pounds,	792 51
Cheese, 420 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	55 47
Vinegar, 330 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	38 85
Apples, 8 barrels,	18 97
Lard, 1,009 lbs., \$163.80 ; tallow, 97 lbs., \$9.21,	173 01
Dried Apple, 142 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds,	23 00
Eggs, 304 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen,	67 94
Hops, 119 pounds,	10 11
Raisins, 6 boxes ; figs, 25 lbs. ; and other fruit, .	37 12
Pepper, 50 lbs. ; starch, 71 lbs. ; and other groceries,	19 13
Soap, 4,233 lbs., \$247.74 ; potash, 1,091 lbs., \$95.39,	343 13
Cream Tartar, \$31.84 ; saleratus, \$13.37, . . .	45 21
Milk, 7,289 gallons,	946 76
Strawberries, 66 boxes ; raspberries, 137 boxes, .	32 48
Peaches, 23 bushels,	40 25
Pears, various kinds,	42 01
Berries, currants, and other fruit from the garden,	13 42
Crackers, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels,	29 35
Beets, 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels,	11 96
Squashes, 647 pounds,	7 43
Cucumbers and other garden vegetables, . . .	59 41
Sundries,	34 10
	<hr/>
	\$19,720 87

Fuel and Lights, include

Coal, 488 tons gross,	\$4,115 06
Wood, 71 cords,	409 71
Oil, 214 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons,	192 91
Wicks and matches,	8 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,725 68

Miscellaneous, includes

Expenses in pursuing and returning elopers,	\$76 30
Expenses in returning boys to their friends,	22 00
Travelling expenses on business for the institution,	87 66
Visiting apprentices,	24 45
Expenses in pursuing and returning apprentices who have left their places,	53 57
Conveying Sab. School Teachers to the institution,	125 00
Coffins and expenses of funerals,	22 25
Repairing carryall, chaise, sleigh, and other car'ges,	60 12
Whips, and repairing harnesses,	12 35
Grain for horses, 170 bushels,	172 22
Hay, $5\frac{3}{4}$ tons,	62 24
Hay cutter,	10 00
Blacksmith work,	82 02
Tools for chair-seating shop,	18 30
Garden seeds,	8 62
Butchering,	24 00
Interest,	61 74
Wheelbarrow, hoes, 80; shovels, iron rakes and other garden tools,	73 57
Axes, 3, and helves,	5 46
Foot balls, 6,	7 35
Single sleigh, 1,	18 00
Wagon,	70 00
Leading hose for engine with 4 couplings, 202 feet,	203 90
Ploughing garden and grounds near the institution,	20 55
Large Dorsey boat and oars,	29 10
Sundries,	75 34

\$1,426 09

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the State Reform School.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the State Reform School, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER, }
JOHN A. FITCH, } *Auditing Committee.*

WESTBOROUGH, October 13, 1857.

LYMAN FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as it was

November 29, 1856, \$20,000 00

Income on hand November 29, 1856, . \$750 00

Received interest of H. Dodge, . . . 16 72

Jan. Received dividend on 53 shares

Fitchburg Railroad, . . . 159 00

Received dividend on 60 shares

Boston and Worcester R. R., 240 00

July. Received dividend on 60 shares

Boston and Worcester R. R., 180 00

Received dividend on 53 shares

Fitchburg Railroad, . . . 159 00

\$1,504 72

Less, 420 87

(Which sum has been appropriated, by order of
the Trustees, in moving and repairing Peter's
house) leaving

Income on hand, \$1,083 85

No dividend received on the other stocks since the last Report.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Lyman Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1857.

MARY LAMB FUND.

The principal of this fund is the same as stated
in the last Report November 29, 1856, . . . \$1,000 00

Income on hand November 29, 1856, . . .	\$37 50	
Aug. 11. Received interest to date, . . .	60 00	
	<hr/>	\$97 50
Less,		71 99
		<hr/>

(Which amount has been appropriated, by order
of the Trustees, for the purchase of library
books, and accounted for in the general state-
ment) leaving

Amount of income on hand, \$25 51

This fund is loaned to the city of Worcester.

PARLEY HAMMOND,

Treasurer of the Mary Lamb Fund.

WESTBOROUGH, September 30, 1857.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the State Reform School, the following summary history of the Institution for the past ten months is respectfully submitted.

TABLE 1,

Shows the number received and discharged, and the general state of the School for the ten months ending September 30, 1857.

Boys in School December 1, 1856,	599
since committed,	229
Apprentices returned by masters,	28
arrested and returned who had left masters,	6
returned voluntarily, who had left masters,	8
Whole number in School,	870
Boys discharged or apprenticed,	242
remanded to alternative sentence,	4
returned to masters,	1
escaped,	4
died,	6
Remaining in School September 30, 1857,	613

TABLE 2,

Shows the Commitments from the several Counties the past ten months, and previously.

COUNTIES.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Barnstable,	1	8	9
Berkshire,	15	64	79
Bristol,	18	192	210
Dukes,	—	2	2
Essex,	50	372	422
Franklin,	1	13	14
Hampden,	6	123	129
Hampshire,	6	24	30
Middlesex,	41	329	370
Nantucket,	1	13	14
Norfolk,	27	164	191
Plymouth,	2	22	24
Suffolk,	36	391	427
Worcester,	25	192	217
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 3,

Shows the Admissions, Discharges, and average number for each month.

MONTHS.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Average No.
December, 1856,	12	34	592.2
January, 1857,	26	20	577.6
February, "	16	22	575.6
March, "	24	46	564
April, "	27	34	544.8
May, "	35	17	557.8
June, "	48	22	579.3
July, "	37	24	597.7
August, "	20	11	606
September, "	26	27	610.3
Totals,	271	257	580.5

TABLE 4,

*Shows the disposal of those discharged from December 1, 1856,
to September 30, 1857, and previously.*

DISPOSAL.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Discharged by Board of Trustees, . . .	46	336	382
“ on expiration of sentence, . . .	35	139	174
Remanded to alternative sentence, . . .	4	72	76
Returned to masters,	1	12	13
Discharged by order of Court,	—	8	8
Escaped,	4	11	15
Died,	6	25	31
Indentured to Bakers,	1	7	8
Barbers,	3	15	18
Blacksmiths,	—	11	11
Boiler Makers,	—	2	2
Bookbinders,	—	1	1
Boot and Shoemakers,	41	311	352
Brass Founders,	—	2	2
Butchers,	1	1	2
Cabinet Makers,	—	6	6
Calico Printers,	—	1	1
Carpenters,	5	37	42
Caterers,	—	1	1
Cigar Makers,	—	1	1
Clerks,	2	7	9
Clergymen,	—	1	1
Comb Makers,	—	4	4
Coopers,	1	7	8
Cotton Manufacturers,	2	4	6
Daguerreotypists,	—	1	1
Engineers,	—	1	1
Engravers,	—	1	1
Farmers and Gardeners,	46	273	319
Farmers and Shoemakers,	17	15	32
File Makers,	—	1	1
Fresco Cleaners,	—	1	1
Harness Makers,	—	5	5
Jewellers,	2	—	2
Lumber Dealers,	—	1	1
Japanners,	—	1	1
Machinists,	3	11	14
Mahogany Chair Makers,	—	2	2
Marble Workers,	2	1	3
Masons,	—	13	13
Merchants,	—	3	3
Millers,	—	1	1
Moulders,	2	3	5
Musical Instrument Makers,	—	1	1
Painters,	1	14	15
Paper Hangers,	—	1	1

TABLE 4—Continued.

DISPOSAL.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Indentured to Pianoforte Makers, . . .	—	1	1
Plumbers,	—	1	1
Pocketbook Makers,	—	1	1
Pump and Block Makers,	—	1	1
Printers,	—	4	4
Ropemakers,	1	—	1
Sailmakers	—	3	3
Sawmakers,	—	1	1
Sea Captains,	1	10	11
Ship Carp'tr & Boatbuilders,	—	5	5
Shoe Tool Makers,	1	2	3
Silver Platers,	—	6	6
Sleighmakers,	—	1	1
Stonecutters,	1	2	3
Tack Makers,	—	1	1
Tailors,	3	13	16
Tanners and Curriers,	—	13	13
Tin and Sheet Iron Workers,	—	3	3
Trunk Makers	—	3	3
Veneer Sawyers,	—	1	1
Wheelwrights,	3	6	9
Wireworkers,	1	—	1
Wood Turners,	—	2	2
Woolen Weavers,	1	—	1
Attend School,	20	39	59
Riggers,	—	1	1
Totals,	257	1,492	1,749

In the Annual Reports of my predecessors the attention of the Board has been frequently called to some of the evils incident to our method of apprenticing boys; and it is to be regretted that there are so many instances of want of congeniality between the master and his apprentice. It seems desirable to know more about the master than that the selectmen of his town have certified, in general terms, to his fitness “to bring up a boy.” A man who is eminently fit to manage one boy may be eminently unfit to manage another; hence, many apprentices will be likely to leave their masters, or serve them but poorly, unless the fitness be mutual. It is believed that some of our most promising boys are doing worse, as apprentices, than others who were far less promising; still, a great number are acting their part nobly, and bid fair to be ornaments in their respective communities.

TABLE 5,

Shows the length of time the boys had been in the Institution, who left during the past ten months, and also during the three preceding years.

TIME.					Past 10 mos.	Preceding three Years.	Total.
In School	less than one Month,	.	.	.	—	5	5
In School	1 Month,	.	.	.	1	10	11
	2 Months,	.	.	.	6	12	18
	3 "	.	.	.	4	10	14
	4 "	.	.	.	6	9	15
	5 "	.	.	.	5	10	15
	6 "	.	.	.	5	17	22
	7 "	.	.	.	5	10	15
	8 "	.	.	.	2	16	18
	9 "	.	.	.	2	17	19
	10 "	.	.	.	9	19	28
	11 "	.	.	.	8	21	29
	12 "	.	.	.	18	90	108
	13 "	.	.	.	10	30	40
	14 "	.	.	.	7	32	39
	15 "	.	.	.	7	26	33
	16 "	.	.	.	6	26	32
	17 "	.	.	.	9	29	38
	18 "	.	.	.	7	28	35
	19 "	.	.	.	7	22	29
	20 "	.	.	.	4	27	31
	21 "	.	.	.	7	17	24
	22 "	.	.	.	5	32	37
	23 "	.	.	.	2	27	29
	24 "	.	.	.	16	46	62
	25 "	.	.	.	7	23	30
	26 "	.	.	.	4	20	24
	27 "	.	.	.	6	19	25
	28 "	.	.	.	4	13	17
	29 "	.	.	.	1	8	9
	30 "	.	.	.	6	17	23
	31 "	.	.	.	7	7	14
	32 "	.	.	.	8	9	17
	33 "	.	.	.	4	8	12
	34 "	.	.	.	6	9	15
	35 "	.	.	.	2	4	6
	36 "	.	.	.	11	14	25
	37 "	.	.	.	3	7	10
	38 "	.	.	.	2	7	9
	39 "	.	.	.	2	4	6
	40 "	.	.	.	1	9	10
	41 "	.	.	.	2	9	11
	42 "	.	.	.	2	3	5

TABLE 5—Continued.

TIME.					Past 10 mos.	Preceding three Years.	Total.
In School 43 Months,	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
44 "	.	.	.	.	3	3	6
45 "	.	.	.	.	2	1	3
46 "	.	.	.	.	1	6	7
47 "	.	.	.	.	2	4	6
48 "	.	.	.	.	2	2	4
49 "	.	.	.	.	2	1	3
50 "	.	.	.	.	1	2	3
51 "	.	.	.	.	1	4	5
52 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
53 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
54 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
55 "	.	.	.	.	2	1	3
56 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
57 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
58 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
60 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
61 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
63 "	.	.	.	.	1	1	2
64 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
65 "	.	.	.	.	—	2	2
66 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
67 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
69 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
70 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
72 "	.	.	.	.	—	3	3
79 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
86 "	.	.	.	.	—	1	1
90 "	.	.	.	.	1	—	1
Totals,	.	.	.	.	257	831	1,088

Average, $22\frac{1}{2}$ months.

TABLE 6,

Shows by what authority the commitments during the past ten months have been made, and previously.

COMMITTED.				Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
By Court of Common Pleas,	.	.	.	8	100	108
Boston Municipal Court,	.	.	.	7	150	157
“ Police “	.	.	.	24	219	243
Adams “	.	.	.	2	1	3
Blackstone “	.	.	.	—	1	1
Cambridge “	.	.	.	2	14	16
Chelsea “	.	.	.	3	6	9
Chicopee “	.	.	.	1	9	10
Fall River “	.	.	.	9	62	71
Haverhill “	.	.	.	—	5	5
Lawrence “	.	.	.	15	77	92
Lee “	.	.	.	1	4	5
Lowell “	.	.	.	1	74	75
Lynn “	.	.	.	5	37	42
Milford “	.	.	.	1	2	3
New Bedford “	.	.	.	2	59	61
Newburyport “	.	.	.	7	61	68
Pittsfield, “	.	.	.	5	36	41
Roxbury, “	.	.	.	14	18	32
Salem, . “	.	.	.	9	117	126
Springfield, “	.	.	.	2	36	38
Taunton, “	.	.	.	—	15	15
Williamstown “	.	.	.	3	—	3
Worcester, “	.	.	.	9	90	99
Justices of the Peace, .	.	.	.	99	716	815
Totals, . . . . .	.	.	.	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 7,

*Shows the Offences of those committed the past ten months,
and previously.*

OFFENCES.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Accessory to larceny,	1	1	2
Arson,	—	3	3
Assault,	3	8	11
Assault and battery,	2	14	16
Attempt to burn a building,	—	2	2
Attempt at larceny,	—	1	1
Attempt to pass counterfeit money,	—	1	1
Attempt at robbery,	—	1	1
Barnburning,	—	1	1
Breaking and entering with intent to steal,	2	26	28
Burning a building,	—	2	2
Common drunkards,	2	10	12
Concealing stolen goods,	—	1	1
Burglary,	—	9	9
Giving spirits to persons under arrest,	—	1	1
Having obscene books and prints for cir- culation,	—	2	2
Housebreaking,	—	12	12
Forgery,	—	4	4
Idle and disorderly,	14	79	93
Larceny,	70	652	722
Pilfering,	2	11	13
Quarrelling and profanity,	—	1	1
Robbery from person,	—	4	4
Runaway,	2	19	21
Shopbreaking and stealing,	5	27	32
Shopbreaking with intent to steal,	1	25	26
Stubbornness,	110	819	929
Trespass,	—	11	11
Attempt to commit rape,	1	—	1
Disturbing a school,	1	—	1
Malicious mischief,	4	43	47
No offence mentioned,	—	1	1
Selling intoxicating liquors,	1	—	1
Vagrancy,	8	118	126
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 8,

Shows the length of Sentences the past 10 months, and previously.

SENTENCED.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	155	1,369	1,524
Until 20 years old,	—	5	5
19 " "	—	1	1
18 " "	2	9	11
17 " "	—	5	5
16 " "	1	—	1
15 " "	1	—	1
14 " "	—	2	2
For one year,	10	100	110
one year and four months,	—	1	1
one year and six months,	—	5	5
two years,	12	120	132
two years and six months,	—	4	4
two years and eight months,	2	—	2
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and ten months,	2	—	2
three years,	20	120	140
three years and six months,	1	—	1
three years and eight months,	2	—	2
four years,	7	70	77
four years and six months,	—	1	1
five years,	7	58	65
six "	4	23	27
seven "	1	4	5
eight "	1	7	8
nine "	—	1	1
ten "	1	3	4
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 9,

Shows the length of Alternative Sentences.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCE.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
During minority,	2	18	20
For seven years,	1	1	2
six years,	1	—	1
five years and three months,	—	1	1
five years,	1	4	5
four years,	—	11	11
three years and six months,	—	1	1
three years,	2	23	25
two years, nine months, and eight days,	—	1	1
two years and six months,	1	6	7
two years,	2	71	73
one year and six months,	—	20	20
one year and three months,	—	19	19
one year,	9	85	94
ten months,	—	3	3
nine “	—	5	5
eight “	—	7	7
six “	68	515	583
five “	1	15	16
four “	7	43	50
three “	37	280	317
two “	33	363	396
forty days,	—	1	1
one month,	54	310	364
less than one month,	10	105	115
unexpired portion of sentence,	—	1	1
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

TABLE 10,

*Shows the Nativity of those committed the past ten months,
and previously.*

NATIVITY.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Born in Ireland,	30	245	275
New Brunswick,	6	44	50
England,	6	40	46
Canada,	5	17	22
Nova Scotia,	6	26	32
Scotland,	1	7	8
France,	—	1	1
Germany,	—	1	1
Italy,	1	1	2
West Indies,	—	2	2
Newfoundland,	2	1	3
Foreigners,	57	385	442
Born in Massachusetts,	130	1,214	1,344
Maine,	11	66	77
New Hampshire,	5	54	59
Vermont,	—	33	33
Rhode Island,	1	25	26
Connecticut,	5	26	31
New York,	15	78	93
New Jersey,	2	5	7
Pennsylvania,	—	7	7
Ohio,	1	—	1
Illinois,	—	3	3
Maryland,	—	4	4
Virginia,	—	6	6
District of Columbia,	—	2	2
Georgia,	1	—	1
Louisiana,	1	1	2
Natives,	172	1,524	1,696
Foreigners,			442
Natives,			1,696
Total,			2,138

Of the 1,696 born in the United States, 1,159 are of American parentage, 441 of Irish, 57 of English, 13 of French, 14 of Scotch, 9 of German, 1 of Danish, 1 of Spanish, 1 of Swedish.

TABLE 11,

Shows the Ages of boys when committed.

AGE.	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Totals.
Six years,	—	4	4
Seven years,	3	15	18
Eight years,	2	55	57
Nine years,	17	98	115
Ten years,	17	182	199
Eleven years,	23	215	238
Twelve years,	30	240	270
Thirteen years,	33	296	329
Fourteen years,	31	327	358
Fifteen years,	44	371	415
Sixteen years,	19	70	89
Seventeen years, and over,	9	25	34
Unknown,	1	11	12
Totals,	229	1,909	2,138

Average age, 13 years.

TABLE 12,

Shows the average Employment of the boys for the past ten months.

Employed by contractors, making shoes,	113.8
in making and repairing shoes for boys,	5.2
seating chairs,	111.1
sewing and knitting,	123.8
farming and gardening,	92.8
the laundry,	39
domestic work,	43.9
baking and cooking,	12.9
care of dining rooms,	11
miscellaneous work,	10.1
grading in front of the institution,	12.9
Confined to the hospital,	4
Total,	580.5

SHOE DEPARTMENT.

Messrs. Comstock, Cole & Co., of Boston, have employed an average of 113.8 boys through the ten months for which this Report is made, and have made 136,519 pairs of shoes.

In the shop where shoes are made and repaired for the boys, an average of 5.2 boys have been employed—in making 217 pairs of shoes, in closing 660 pairs, and in repairing 2,604 pairs of shoes and boots.

CHAIR-SEATING DEPARTMENT.

Here an average of 111.1 boys have plaited 27,565 seats, 2,125 backs, and 99 crickets.

FARM.

The Board of Agriculture have employed two hundred boys through the season of farm work, a greater number than in any previous year; but the average has been diminished by the unusual number of wet days, when it was unsuitable for them to be out.

SEWING AND KNITTING DEPARTMENT.

The average number of boys employed in this department has been 123.8, and the following

TABLE 13,
Shows the amount of Work done.

ARTICLES.	Made.	Repaired.
Jackets,	655	2,780
Pantaloons,	892	5,290
Vests,	161	—
Frocks,	12	—
Shirts,	737	3,645
Aprons,	80	405
Caps,	978	520
Mittens,	20	—
Socks,	652	3,180
Suspenders,	591	—
Handkerchiefs,	401	—
Sheets made, sheets and spreads repaired,	606	323
Pillow cases,	504	—
Bed ticks,	54	20
Blankets,	—	10
Towels,	16	—
Holders,	30	—
Whole number of articles,	6,389	16,173

LAUNDRY.

An average of 39 boys have washed and ironed 129,896 articles.

SCHOOLS.

The organization of the schools continues as formerly, there being four grades in each (old and new) department.

The boys received during the ten months have entered these grades as follows, viz.:—

The highest grade,	.	.	.	.	.	34
second “	.	.	.	.	.	46
third “	.	.	.	.	.	88
fourth “	.	.	.	.	.	111
Total,	.	.	.	.	.	<u>279</u>

Those discharged were from the several grades, as follows, viz.:—

From the highest grade,	.	.	.	.	134
second “	.	.	.	.	56
third “	.	.	.	.	37
fourth “	.	.	.	.	30
Total,	.	.	.	.	<u>257</u>

The promotions to higher grades were as follows, viz.:—

From fourth to third,	.	.	.	.	57
third to second,	.	.	.	.	100
second to highest,	.	.	.	.	119

Number in each grade, September 30, 1857 :—

Highest grade,	.	.	.	.	.	147
Second “	.	.	.	.	.	138
Third “	.	.	.	.	.	168
Fourth “	.	.	.	.	.	160
Total,	.	.	.	.	.	<u>613</u>

Of these there are—

That read books in general,	429
in easy lessons,	136
in monosyllables,	44
in the alphabet,	4
That have studied practical arithmetic, . . .	147
mental “	305
the simple rules of practical	
arithmetic,	25
through the simple rules,	59
compound numbers,	26
fractions,	33
the book,	4
geography,	138
physiology,	4
algebra,	4
English grammar,	18
That write on paper,	545
slates,	55

Through the past summer the schools have not been pressed to do as much as they might; but they are believed to be in good condition.

DAILY ROUTINE.

A. M.

At 5:20—Watchman calls teachers and overseers to enter on duty with the boys.

5:30—Boys rise and make their beds.

5:40—Pass to the yards and washrooms, and remain till 6.

6:00—Devotions commence, and continue till 6:20.

6:20—Breakfast, which takes about twenty minutes; after which they pass to the yards.

6:45—School commences, and continues till 8:45.

8:45—Boys go into the yards, and remain till 9.

9:00—Go to work, and remain till 12, except a short recess according to the season.

12:00—Yard and washrooms, till 12:15.

12:15—Dinner till 12:40, and pass into yards, there to remain till 1 P. M.

P. M.

1:00—Work till 4.

4:00—Yard and washrooms, till 4:20.

4:20—Supper till 4:40, after which remain in yards till 5.

5:00—School till 7.

7:00—Recess in yard, till 7:20.

7:20—Devotions till 7:40.

7:40—Retire.

The above is the routine at this season and through the cold part of the year; when the days are longer, the school hours are in the middle of the day.

In the chaplain's report will be found an account of the routine of religious exercises, as well as of the religious and moral condition of the institution; but he has omitted to mention *the valuable aid to the devotions* contributed by Mrs. Sleeper, with her organ and her choir of six hundred singers.

HEALTH.

We have great reason to thank God for so large a measure of health as He in his mercy has seen fit to bestow upon us and our youthful charge. The number of deaths has been greater than usual; but three of these were from diseases which had made progress before the boys entered the school, and a fourth from an injury received some months before the commencement of the year.

See physician's report.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

This important feature of our institution, under the superintendence of our excellent chaplain, assisted by the officers and by several benevolent ladies and gentlemen of this vicinity and of the village of Westborough, has not been neglected; but it has been performing its work in sowing the seed which, we trust, will bring forth fruit abundantly to the glory of God.

All thanks are due to our faithful corps of Sabbath school teachers.

THIRD DEPARTMENT.

In this department there are twenty lodges and a workshop, where those boys who exert a pernicious influence upon others, may be removed from contact with them.

The boys here work eight hours per day, and spend the rest of the time, each in his lodge, where he sleeps, reads, and eats, except that twice every day they are taken into the yard, when all the other boys are absent at their several duties.

The time of their stay in this department depends wholly on their behavior and the spirit they exhibit; but while here they can have no communication with the other boys: they see the others in the chapel only.

The discipline here is more strict than in the other departments: the food is the same. It was supposed that the accommodations of this department might not prove sufficient; but, instead of twenty, the average number has been four, and the greatest number twelve. The influence, so far, of this department, has not disappointed our expectations, which were very high.

The necessity that existed for such a department as this will be better understood, if I state the case of a single boy. Not long since we received a boy on a sentence to remain during his minority, but with an alternative sentence of one day in the house of correction at Worcester.

This boy was not a bad boy; still, he was very desirous of being remanded to his alternative sentence. Had it not been for our third department he would probably have been troublesome, in the hope that, in order to get rid of him, we would have him remanded, and in one day he would be at large.

This boy has given us no trouble.

DISCIPLINE.

In the discipline of boys I have not expected to "gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles," but have endeavored to sow that which I desired to reap. I have found very few children but that respect justice and reciprocate kindness; and I should be sorry to find that any boy under my care suspected me of any deficiency in either of these attributes. Without

repudiating the rod, then, I would never willingly be unjust or unkind; and would always be willing to square my own conduct by the same rule that I apply to theirs.

Much difference of opinion exists in regard to modes of punishment, but, in my opinion, the mode is of infinitely less importance than the spirit in which it is given and received. One boy would never acknowledge the justice of a blow; another could not believe in the benevolence of a person who deprives him of his accustomed food or amusement; and the person who should punish the same offence in the same manner, upon boys so different in feeling, might inflict a lasting injury on one of them. It follows that a boy needs to be measured for a punishment, as much as for a garment, if we would have it fit; and that *he* is not impartial, who always inflicts the same punishment for the same offence. He is the best disciplinarian who can best measure the offender and the offence.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We are indebted to Charles Merriam, Esq., of Springfield, for some five or six hundred volumes of books of a highly interesting and moral character, to be distributed to our boys; to the proprietors of the following journals and periodicals, which have been furnished gratuitously, viz.: "Boston Daily Bee," "Salem Register," "Massachusetts Spy," "National Ægis," "American Weekly Traveller," "Child's Paper," "Youth's Companion," and "Prisoner's Friend;" also, to Mr. John Ball, of Salem, for several packages of pamphlets and papers; and to Hon. Simon Brown, for several bundles of papers; and I fear I have not mentioned all whom I should remember in this connection.

These books, pamphlets, and papers are read by our boys with great avidity, and our hearty thanks are tendered to all who have remembered them in this way.

Our thanks are also due to the Sabbath school teachers, and to many citizens of Westborough, for kindness to our boys on various occasions.

Finally, I desire to express my thanks to the Board of Trustees, for the kindness with which they have aided me in the performance of my arduous duties, and for their generous sym-

pathy and forbearance when the novelty of my position made their sympathy so necessary to me ; and especially, to John A. Fayerweather, Esq., who being so much nearer than other members of the Board, has been so much more frequently called on for assistance. To the Assistant-Superintendent, and to all those associated with me in the labors of the institution, for their indefatigable labors, and their cordial coöperation, I tender my sincere thanks.

May He who alone can give efficacy to our labors, bless us all abundantly, and make us successful in the great work in which we are engaged.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. E. STARR,
Superintendent.

STATE REFORM SCHOOL, Westborough, }
September 30, 1857. }

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the State Reform School, at Westborough,
Massachusetts.*

GENTLEMEN :—We have great reason for thankfulness to God, that, at the close of another year, we are able to record so much that is encouraging, and so little that is disheartening, in our efforts to reform the wayward. While in some instances we have met with disappointment, in others we have been greatly encouraged, and have become more and more convinced that our model Commonwealth has adopted a wise policy in liberally appropriating money for the prevention of crime. At the same time that wicked men, by the unlawful sale of intoxicating liquors and by other base means, are active in manufacturing criminals, the State, like a nursing mother, is throwing her arms around her children, and endeavoring to shield them from their enemies.

The following tables, exhibiting approximately the moral, social and domestic condition of the boys committed to the institution during the last ten months, will show very conclusively that the State is wisely doing its duty by providing for this class of persons.

TABLE 1.

	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	229	1,909	2,138
Who have lost father,	40	527	567
Who have lost mother,	43	287	330
Who have lost both parents,	21	167	188
Whose fathers have no regular occupation,	27	684	711
Whose fathers are intemperate,	72	573	645
Whose mothers are intemperate,	8	29	37
Whose parents are both intemperate,	15	194	209
Whose parents example is otherwise morally pernicious,	62	1,008	1,070
Who have, or have had one or more members of their families in penal or reformatory institutions,	52	483	536

TABLE 2.

Showing the Habits, Arrests, &c.

	Past 10 mos.	Previously.	Total.
Number committed,	229	1,909	2,138
Were mostly idle previous to commitment,	91	1,512	1,603
Were untruthful previous to commitment,	181	1,701	1,982
Used profane language,	161	1,564	1,725
Used obscene language,	47	1,263	1,310
Were truants,	134	1,334	1,468
Were Sabbath breakers,	81	1,340	1,421
Never attended Sabbath school,	37	322	359
Were irregular or occasional attendants,	120	1,307	1,427
Had a companionship more or less intimate with each other previous to admission,	148	1,462	1,610
Had frequented places of questionable amusement,	54	1,086	1,140
Had slept out nights in stables, sheds, boxes, and similar places,	65	908	973
Had used tobacco,	66	814	880
Had drank intoxicating liquors, many of them to excess,	24	510	534
Had been previously arrested once,	35	384	419
Had been previously arrested twice,	10	121	131
Had been previously arrested three times,	4	59	63
Had been previously arrested four times,	2	24	26
Had been previously arrested five times, or more,	2	50	52
Whole number previously arrested,	53	638	691
Had been in prisons, houses of detention, or reformatory schools,	19	453	472

A glance at these tables will show the necessity for an institution similar to this. Ninety-five of the two hundred and twenty-nine committed during the last ten months, or more than two-fifths of the whole number, had parents one or both of whom were intemperate. A still larger number had lost one or both parents. The parents of others had set other pernicious examples for their children to follow. More than four-fifths of the whole number were habitually untruthful, and nearly as many in the habit of using profane language. Many were idlers and truants, and a large proportion of the whole number have been guilty of larceny, though this fact does not appear in the tables.

The usual machinery for the reformation of these youth has been kept in motion during the term which has now come to a close, and we hope, not without a good degree of success.

The boys are assembled together at six o'clock in the morning for devotional exercises, when a portion of scripture is read and a short prayer offered. The prayer is always concluded with the Lord's Prayer, in which all the boys unite. At the evening services, before the prayer, the boys are called upon to recite in concert the Commandments, some portion of the Psalms which they have learned, or the Beatitudes. This exercise is usually performed with great propriety and interest.

The ceremony in the dining halls at all their meals is impressive, and I think designed to do the boys good. After the boys have marched in, in regular file, the tallest first and the shortest last, and taken their places silently at the tables, the officer says, "Merciful Father," and all the boys, with subdued voices, respond, "Make us thankful for this food, and for all other blessings. May it strengthen us and refresh us. May our souls be refreshed by thy grace. Amen."

The ceremony in the sleeping halls, when the boys retire, is equally interesting; and the friends of the institution, through your report, will be glad to know some of the particulars which make up the religious exercises of a day. After evening prayers, the boys all file into the sleeping halls, one of which can lodge, by crowding them, about three hundred, and the other two can lodge one hundred and fifty each. Each boy takes his position in the door of his dormitory, excepting those who sleep in berths. These stand in a line on the floor. When all are

so still that the slightest whisper can be heard, at the word, "recite," spoken by an officer, in a gentle whisper all say :

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."

After this is recited, at a slight signal, each dormitory door is closed at the same instant, when the boys retire. The religious exercises on the Sabbath are like those on others days, with the addition of a Sabbath school at nine o'clock, a preaching service at eleven, and another in the afternoon.

Our course in the Sabbath school is the same as that mentioned in my last report,—requiring each boy to commit to memory seven verses a week, so as to be able to recite them accurately in the Sabbath school. Some part or the whole of the lesson is usually taken as a theme for my morning sermon. We have been greatly aided this year, as we ever have been, and always must be, by our faithful band of teachers, who come from the village, facing the winter's cold and bearing the summer's heat, to meet their classes every Sabbath.

The instruction which the boys receive in vocal music affords not only a pleasant pastime for them twice a week in each school, but is an indispensable help on the Sabbath day. Without our congregational singing, in which six hundred boys enter so heartily, especially when the tune is one they like, we could not enjoy the Sabbath exercises as we do.

The changes which have been made in the chapel, and the beautiful tablets, containing the "Ten Commandments" and the "Lord's Prayer," add much to its convenience and comeliness.

The "Class-meeting," which I mentioned in my last report, as having been formed for conversation and prayer with serious minded boys, has been continued, and I trust, with some good results. Several have given good evidence that they were sincere in their promises to live lives of piety and usefulness. More than thirty different boys have been members of this weekly meeting, many of whom have left the institution. One lad, who was invited to join the class the evening before he was to start for Maine where he was apprenticed, manifested deep

feeling, when he was reminded that this was a favorable opportunity to commence a Christian life, and promised that he would not let it slip. So far as his master and the family can judge, he has kept his word. This was seven months ago, and frequent letters inform me that his appearance and whole conduct exhibit the fruits of a believing heart. The step-mother of another boy who was a member of the "class-meeting," several months after he had left here, writes: "We think that his regular habits at Westborough will prove a lasting benefit to him. His master says 'he is a *good* boy,' and he really does appear well. I do not think there ever was a greater change in any one. I do hope he will 'hold out to the end.' Foolish things which used to delight him he appears to care nothing about."

Since our last report, there have been in the institution six deaths among the boys. The conversation had with them on their dying beds, showed that their consciences were nearer right than their lives. Their language was often, "I am sorry I ever swore,"—"I wish I was a *good* boy."

Rand died January thirteenth. His conversation during his sickness showed that he had thought upon the subject of salvation through Christ. He said, when asked how he expected to be saved,—“We can't be saved only through Christ.” He wept when he spoke of his past life, and said, "I was a good boy until I was ten years of age;" then he fell in with bad boys, and learned to swear and tell falsehoods. He spoke with much feeling of the last words of his dying mother, which were:—

“I lean my head on Jesus' breast,
And breathe my life out sweetly there.”

He looked happy when any one went to him to read the Bible, or talk with him about religious things. The day before he died, he said he thought "God had forgiven his sins;" he "hoped to be saved through Christ."

I would like to speak particularly of a very interesting temperance address given to the boys, some time since, by Peter Sinclair, which they enthusiastically applauded as he fastened a story for them to remember on each thumb and finger; but my space will not allow it.

I would not close my report without urging upon your atten-

tion the necessity of employing an agent immediately to find the good homes in the East and West which are waiting to receive our surplus boys, if the subject had not already been laid before you by our superintendent and approved by yourselves.

A little effort that I made a few weeks ago, while visiting in New Hampshire, has confirmed my belief that the thing is practicable. With but little exertion and a day's time, I found places for four boys, who are now enjoying the luxury of happy homes.

W. T. SLEEPER.

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

WESTBOROUGH, October 8, 1857.

The Trustees of the State Reform School:—

GENTLEMEN:—The following communication is intended to bring to your notice the material facts respecting the health of this institution, that have come under my observation since the annual report of last year. It will be seen that the mortality this year in this institution has exceeded the average of former years, there having been six deaths when there has been no prevailing sickness of importance excepting the usual pulmonary affections common to the winter and spring. A larger number than usual have suffered from accidental injuries, mostly of the head and spine, or from diseases of unusual occurrence. Three have died of disease of the brain. One of this number was injured by a fall upon the head, in July of last year, from the effects of which he partially recovered, so far as to attend school, but had a relapse, and died in December. The other two had been recently committed, and were seized with violent symptoms when first brought to the hospital; but from their history, it was inferred that the disease had been making latent progress before entering the institution.

Three have recovered from accidental injuries of the head and spine, who were for several days apparently in a critical condition.

There has been but one case of simple rheumatic fever, and one of inflammation of the bowels.

One died from constitutional hæmorrhage, associated with rheumatic fever and congestion of the lungs. This boy had

been subject to attacks of this kind, sometimes endangering life, from his earliest childhood.

Thirteen have occupied the hospital with bronchial inflammation, conjoined in most of the cases, with lung fever. Two of these died.

Hooping cough has been in the institution for the last ten weeks. Fifty or upwards have had it. It has now nearly disappeared, and is succeeded by influenza to a very general extent.

Yours respectfully,

H. H. RISING.

APPENDIX

TO THE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS FROM MASTERS, RELATIVE TO BOYS WHO
HAVE BEEN APPRENTICED.U——, *March 14, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—I sit down to write you a few lines in respect to the boy I took from that institution. He is a boy that suits me very well. I do not think I could better myself, if I should try fifty times. I think I shall come over before a great while, and bring the boy, so that you can see him, and ask him any questions that any of you wish. He wants to come and see the place and boys about once a year; and I think it better than writing to you, for you can judge for yourselves.

Yours, &c., R.

A——, *March 25, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—A. is enjoying good health, and I am glad to say, he is a good boy. He takes an interest in my business. He has grown very fast; has been to school the past winter, and has done very well. He also goes to the Sabbath school. I feel as if I had a boy that I can do by, as by a son.

Respectfully yours, S.

D——, *March 18, 1857..*

Sir:—One year has passed since you placed the boy under my care and direction. His behavior is good; indeed, better than I expected. He is always ready and willing to do his duty, and does it cheerfully. He has his faults, but take him all in all, he is an excellent boy. I like him very much; he is very obedient, minds his own business, and is no tattler. I could not have got a better boy to work.

Yours truly, T.

L——, *March 27, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—It gives me satisfaction to inform you in regard to A. V., who has been nearly three years in my family. The past year, he has done all that I could reasonably expect. His health is uniformly good; and he has taken a deeper interest in the business of the farm, desiring to make it more productive than ever before. He takes satisfaction in having the care of cattle and horses on the farm, and keeping them in good condition. A. has attended school fourteen weeks, the past winter, and reported himself a studious and obedient scholar. He attends church steadily on the Sabbath, with some of my family; and the Sabbath school while it keeps, during the warm part of the year.

Truly yours, C.

M——, *May 15, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—The peculiar trust imposed upon me by taking from your hands and care, E. C., late of your school, has, I trust, not been in vain to him or to

me; for the duties imposed thereby have been gratefully discharged, on account of his good conduct since he has been with me. The attention which he has paid to the observance of the Sabbath and the Sabbath school, has been creditable to him and highly gratifying to me. His attention to evening school has assisted him to understand more fully the rudiments of a common English education. His industry in his daily work is commendable; and upon the whole, I must say, he is as good a boy as I expected to find. He desires me to say, that he is grateful for the kindness and care he received while there, and hopes the boys will be faithful and obedient.

With respect, &c., G.

N. B—, *July 23, 1857.*

Sir:—The boy I took from the school July 16, 1856, is a very good boy indeed; very kind and agreeable; willing to do whatever may be required of him. He has not shown the least anger or stubbornness; never refused to go, or do any thing, when I directed him. He is very kind in my family; always obliging to my children. He has attended church and Sabbath school all the time. He attended school, what we had in the winter, and two weeks this present summer.

Yours respectfully, S.

T—, *September 10, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—As it is now nearly a year since I took G. from your institution, I proceed to fulfil the conditions of the indenture which calls for a statement as to his health, character, &c.; and it is with pleasure that I can say, his conduct has been very good, and his health all that could be expected, as he has been able to attend to his work every day; and to judge from the past, I think I shall have no trouble with him in the future, or regret having taken him away.

Yours, &c., B.

W—, *September 11, 1857.*

Sir:—The lad G. H. P. that I took from your school, I am happy to say, has been a very good boy this year past. He has been at school all the time; his teacher says, he is getting along very well, and he improves in his studies very well. His health has been very good. He sends his respects to all at the institution.

Yours with respect, T.

W—, *September 21, 1857.*

Dear Sir:—F. E., the boy I took from the State Reform School, is doing well. He still works with me at the boot-making business, and I have to say, that I like him well.

Your ob't, W.

EXTRACTS

FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM BOYS.

B—, *December 26, 1856.*

MR. HUTCHINSON:—Not doubting but that you would be glad to hear that one of your old boys was doing well, I thought I would write a few lines. I am learning the gilder's trade, and for an apprentice am doing well. I was sorry to hear that Mr. Talcott had left the institution. If there are any of the old boys there, please remember me to them, also to all my old friends—I include the officers in that word, for I can now see that they were my real friends. I have seen a good deal of the old boys, out; most of them are doing well.

Yours, K.

February 3, 1857.

MR. SLEEPER. Dear Sir:—I left Westborough in such a hurry, that I could not see you or Mrs. S., though I wanted to very much. I came away with the determination *to do right*. I will abide by my decision, and be a comfort to mother. I am under very great obligations to you for your kindness, and the trouble you had in my behalf.

Yours, &c., P.

N. A—, *March 1, 1857.*

MR. WM. E. STARR. Sir:—I thought I would try to pen you a few lines to let you know that I arrived safe in this place, at night, the same day I left the institution. I shall always be grateful to you for the kind attentions I received at your and Mr. Talcott's hands.

Yours respectfully, F.

L—, *April 6, 1857.*

MR. SLEEPER:—I am very thankful for the many blessings that I received while under the care of the institution. I think I learned a great deal there by which I shall profit. I used to go to meeting and Sabbath school when I was not more than six or eight years old, but when we moved to L. I left off going; but I shall now go to meeting every Sunday. Give my love to my companions, and tell them to try to do just what is right, and they will get along a great deal better. I know that from experience. I am in a printing office, and think I shall learn printing as my trade. I shall turn over a new leaf, as it were, and try my best to behave myself like a man; and with the help of God, I know I shall succeed. Give my love to Mr. Starr and Mr. Hutchinson, and tell them I shall never rue the day that I entered the State Reform School.

Good bye, W.

W—, *April 3, 1857.*

MR. HUTCHINSON. Dear Sir:—I received your kind and welcome epistle yesterday in the office. I need not say I was much pleased to hear from you.

All the folks send their best respects, and would like to see you at any time when it is convenient for you to come. I am glad to hear that so many boys had their liberty on Fast Day, and am pleased that D. was one of them. I saw —— a few days since, and they seemed to think, if he did well he would soon come away. But there is one thing I would remind him of: if he does not intend to be honest, he might as well be where he is as to be away; for he will always be in trouble and despised by every one. Give my best respects to all the officers and to the boys.

Respectfully yours, A.

L——, *May*.

MR. STARR. Sir:—Thinking you would like to hear from your former pupil, I now sit down to address you. I am sincerely thankful to you for your good instructions and kind attentions to me, and also to Mr. Hutchinson. Words can scarcely express my gratitude. Give my respects to Mr. Johnson, and to all the teachers I was under, and also to Mr. Sleeper. My going there was not without being very beneficial to me; but if I had not been put there, God only knows where I would have been now. I think I shall come up and make you a visit in July.

Yours with true sincerity, D.

P——, *June 26, 1857.*

Dear Friend:—I now take this opportunity to write you a few lines. I am in good health, and I hope these few lines will find you the same. I like my place very well, and I thank you very much for getting me this place. I go to the Orthodox meeting every Sunday, and to Sunday school. Give my love to Mr. Sleeper, and to all the officers.

Yours, M.

Names, Residence, Commission and Retirement of the Trustees of the State Reform School, from its commencement to the present time.

Date of Commission.	Names.	Residence.	Date of Retirement.
1847.	Nahum Fisher, . . .	Westborough, . . .	1849.
1847.	John W. Graves, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1849.
1847.	Samuel Williston, . . .	Easthampton, . . .	1853.
1847.	Thomas A. Greene, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	Still in office.
1847.	Otis Adams, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1851.
1847.	George Denny,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1851.
1847.	William T. Andrews, . . .	Boston, . . .	1851.
1849.	William Livingston,* . . .	Lowell, . . .	1851.
1849.	Russell A. Gibbs, . . .	Lanesborough, . . .	1853.
1851.	George H. Kuhn, . . .	Boston, . . .	1855.
1851.	J. B. French, . . .	Lowell, . . .	1854.
1851.	Daniel H. Forbes,* . . .	Westborough, . . .	1854.
1851.	Edward B. Bigelow, . . .	Grafton, . . .	1855.
1853.	J. H. W. Paige, . . .	New Bedford, . . .	1856.
1853.	Harvey Dodge, . . .	Sutton, . . .	1857.
1854.	G. Howland Shaw, . . .	Boston, . . .	1856.
1854.	Henry W. Cushman, . . .	Bernardston, . . .	Still in office.
1855.	Albert H. Nelson, . . .	Woburn, . . .	1855.
1855.	John A. Fitch, . . .	Hopkinton, . . .	Still in office.
1855.	Parley Hammond, . . .	Worcester, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	Simon Brown, . . .	Concord, . . .	Still in office.
1856.	John A. Fayerweather, . . .	Westborough, . . .	Still in office.
1857.	J. H. Temple, . . .	Framingham, . . .	Still in office.

Those marked thus (*) are deceased.

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JOHN A. FITCH.
PARLEY HAMMOND.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.
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SIMON BROWN.

JOHN A. FAYERWEATHER.

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THOMAS A. GREENE.

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REV. WILLIAM T. SLEEPER, *Chaplain*.

HENRY H. RISING, *Physician*.
MRS. W. E. STARR, *Matron*.
MRS. T. F. BRIGHAM, *Asst. Matron*.
MRS. W. T. SLEEPER, *Teacher of Music*.

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HENRY TALCOTT.
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WATCHMEN.

WILLIAM H. PAIGE.

GEORGE W. HODGKINS.

ANDREW MORRISON, *Man of all Work*.